

ALCYONIUM ARENOSUM.



CHARACTER GENERICUS.

Animal (plerumque) plantæ forma crescens.
Stirps fixa, carnofa, gelatinofa, fpongiofa, vel
coriacea, *osculis polypiferis* obfita.

CHARACTER SPECIFICUS, &c.

ALCYONIUM simplex femicirculare arenofu-
lufum.

ESCHARA LUTOSA.

Pall. el Zooph. p. 37. n. 5.

Efchara MILLEPORA arenofa Anglica.

Raii fyn. p. 31.

FLUSTRA ARENOSA.

Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel. p. 3829.

FLUSTRA ARENOSA.

Soland. et Ell. Zooph. p. 17

Miram hanc fubftantiam, quam in *Efcharis* nume-
ravit Pallas, in *Milleporis* Ellifius? in *Fluftris* Gme-
linus, qui fystema naturæ Linnæanum auctius edidit,
nullus

nullus dubito in *Alcyonii* genere reponere. Adhæret plerumque radicibus fucorum majorum; circa littora Britanniae septentrionalis minime rara; semper retinens figuram semicircularem. Substantia est multo leviori et magis friabili quam cætera pleraque Alcyonia, et constare videtur ex arena glutine animali connexa. Cellulæ polypos recipientes qui putantur massam ædificasse, majusculæ sunt, nec profundæ, sed potius superficiariæ. Color totius leviter fuscoflavet. Ostendit tabula veram magnitudinem.



SANDY ALCYONIUM.



GENERIC CHARACTER.

Animal (commonly) growing in the form of a plant.

Substance more or less fleshy, gelatinous, spongy, or coriaceous: beset with polype-cells.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER.

Flat sandy ALCYONIUM of a semi-circular form.

Horfe-shoe MILLEPORE.

English sandy MILLEPORA.

Ellis corallin. p. 74.

I have not the slightest hesitation in ranking this curious substance under the genus *Alcyonium*, rather than that of *Eschara*, in which it is placed by Pallas, of *Millepora*, in which it is stationed by Ellis? or lastly, in that of *Flustra*, in which it is arranged by Gmelin in his enlarged edition of the *Systema Naturæ* of Linnæus. It is represented in its natural size, and is generally found attached to the roots of the

the larger fuci: it is not uncommon about the northern parts of the British coasts, and always preserves its semicircular shape. Its texture is much fligher than that of most others of this genus, seeming to consist of sandy particles connected by an animal gluten: the cells or cavities, in which are supposed to reside the polypes, or fabricators of the mass, are rather large than small, and are not very deeply impressed, but rather superficial. Its colour is a pale yellowish brown.